

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

14 SEPTEMBER 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Berlin

a. The Russians have bowed to Western demands and have reverted to a bus for their War Memorial contingent.

b. Before this word came we were seeing indications that the Soviets were worried over the matter.

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2. Congo

a. Tshombé is fulminating against what he charges is a combined UN-Congolese plan to attack his positions in Northern Katanga.


b. He seems, however, to have cooled down considerably over the clash between a UN patrol and his gendarmerie on Wednesday. He called in the US, UK and Belgian consuls yesterday to say he regretted the previous day's outburst during which, besides lambasting the UN, he poured invective on the consuls personally.

c. The local UN authorities, and the Katangans too, show some readiness to agree to a freeze of positions on both sides in order to prevent a new incident, which Western representatives in Elisabethville agree could be fatal to the UN's reintegration plan.

d. Belgium's Spaak has made what is in effect a strong plea that the US close out the Katanga Information Office under the Belgian Streulens, arguing that its survival nourishes the belief that the cause of Katangan secession still has political support here.

3. Soviet
nuclear
tests

There are clear indications that the USSR has run into technical difficulties during the current nuclear test series in the Arctic and has been unable to hold to its test schedule.



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4. Brazil

a. President Goulart's contest with the Brazilian congress over presidential powers is nearing a climax.

b. The congress, in session since Monday, is holding out against Goulart's demand for an October plebiscite on the parliamentary system.

c. Goulart partisans among the military and in the labor movement are making ominous sounds about what will happen unless congress gives in. Some of these seem to be for psychological effect, but Goulart himself seems anxious to head off a general strike called for Saturday, evidently fearing that he may be sowing a wild wind.

5. Soviet-Iranian relations

a. It looks very much as though Moscow is adopting a more amiable approach toward Iran.

b. The Soviets have been pressing Tehran on and off since 1957 to sign a joint statement under which Iran would foreswear foreign missile bases on its soil. Now, however, Moscow has agreed to accept a unilateral Iranian declaration to that effect which would have none of the connotations of a treaty.

c. This is no more than the Iranians have been ready to give all along. As matters now stand, the declaration is due to be issued in Tehran tomorrow and will be sealed by an acknowledgement of receipt by the Soviet Embassy.

For The President Only - Top Secret

6. Cambodia

a. Cambodia's acceptance of U Thant's plan to establish a special UN mission in the Thai-Cambodian area could bring some lifting of the storm clouds hanging over relations between the two countries. Having already suggested such a step, Thailand can probably be counted on to go along.

b. Up to this point, however, there is no indication whether Sihanouk sees a UN presence as a substitute for, or merely a supplement to, the international guarantees of Cambodian neutrality he has been seeking.

c. [] Cambodian [] government is working on a deal to obtain anti-aircraft weapons, and [] the Czechs would be the suppliers.

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NOTES

- A. Soviet Venus Probe There is no firm indication yet as to whether or not the satellite launched Tuesday night has been put into a trajectory toward Venus. [redacted] 50X1
- B. USSR The first TASS comment on yesterday's press conference features an allegation that the President "actually admitted that preparations are under way in the United States for overthrowing the Cuban government."
- C. Cuba The number of confirmed SAM sites [redacted] under construction grows, [redacted] 50X1
50X1
50X1
- D. Morocco-Algeria Morocco, which may see a chance to benefit from Algeria's preoccupation with other problems, is again moving troops toward the Saharan area in dispute between the two countries. The Moroccans tried to take control of the region just after Algerian independence but pulled out when the Algerians fought back.
- E. Communist China What seems to be a [redacted] Communist missile site--probably for surface-to-surface coastal defense missiles--has been located at Dairen at the tip of the Liaotung Peninsula. [redacted] 50X1
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- F. West Germany In its scrutiny of the Soviet declaration on Cuba, the press gazes hard at the implied link between Cuba and Berlin but concludes in unison that the US has no intention of striking any kind of bargain.
- G. Netherlands Both chambers of the Dutch parliament have now approved the West New Guinea agreement. The Senate vote took place yesterday.
- H. France-Arab States Saudi Arabia has joined Syria and Jordan in reopening relations with Paris.

DOCUMENTS OF INTEREST

I.

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II.

III.

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